at least one printing unit for printing the web, the printing unit having a printing mode and a white web mode;

a folder for cutting the web into signatures; and

a controller for controlling the tension in the web between the infeed and the at least one printing unit and the tension after the at least one printing unit, the controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit in response to a signal indicating a transition between the printing mode and the white web mode.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz. Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §102(e) Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 6, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Jurkewitz.

Jurkewitz describes a method for regulating web tension in an offset printing press. A regulating device with a dancer roller is positioned between a web stand and printing units. Figs. 2 and 3 show the pressure of a pneumatic cylinder as a function of the web speed.

As described by Jurkewitz in column 4, line 55 to column 5, line 35, the pressure of the pneumatic cylinder is dependent solely on web speed. Jurkewitz does not describe determining if a change from a printing mode to a white web mode occurs, and thus no signal is produced indicating when such a change occurs.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "increasing an infeed tension in the web between the infeed and the printing units in response to a signal indicating a change to a printing mode from a white web mode."

Claim 6 has been amended to recite a "controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit in response to a signal indicating a transition between the

printing mode and the white web mode."

Support for the amendments is found for example at page 6, lines 24 to 28.

In Jurkewitz, no tension control signal is ever generated indicating a transition from a white web mode to a printing mode or visa versa. If a transition to a white web mode occurs in Jurkewitz, it does not affect the tension, as this is dependent solely on web speed.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) to claims 1 and 6 and dependent claims 2, 10 and 11 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Jurkewitz alone or in combination with Saiano.

Saiano does not disclose controlling tension as a function of a transition between a printing mode and the white web mode or generation of a signal indication such a transition.

In view of the comments with respect to claims 1 and 6 above, withdrawal of the rejection to dependent claims 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 is also respectfully requested.

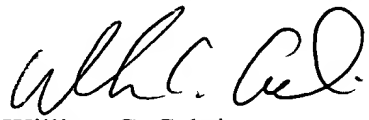
CONCLUSION

No fee is believed required. If any fee is required at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

DAVIDSON, DAVIDSON & KAPPEL, LLC

By: 

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Application of: Kevin Francis ALBERT, et al.

Serial No.: 09/534,466

Filed: March 24, 2000

VERSION SHOWING CLAIM CHANGES

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A method for controlling tension in a web of a printing press, the printing press including an infeed, printing units and a folder, the method comprising the steps of:

increasing an infeed tension in the web between the infeed and the printing units in response to a signal indicating a [when the printing units] change to a printing mode from a white web mode; and

decreasing the infeed tension in the web in response to a further signal indicating a [when the printing units] change from the printing mode to the white web mode.

6. (Twice Amended) A web printing press comprising:

an infeed for providing a web of material to be printed;

at least one printing unit for printing the web, the printing unit having a printing mode and a white web mode;

a folder for cutting the web into signatures; and

a controller for controlling the tension in the web between the infeed and the at least one printing unit and the tension after the at least one printing unit, the controller controlling the tension between the infeed and the at least one printing unit [as a function of] in response to a signal indicating a transition between the printing mode and the white web mode.